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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **Tatsuji HIGUCHI et al.**

Group Art Unit: **2622**

Application Number: **10/686,633**

Examiner: **VU, NGOC YEN T.**

Filed: **October 17, 2003**

Confirmation Number: **8920**

For: **ELECTRONIC IMAGE PICKUP APPARATUS**

Attorney Docket Number: **981491A**

Customer Number: **38834**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 18, 2006

Sir:


In compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants direct the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office to the documents listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. This paper is being filed within the time periods set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b). A copy of each non-U.S. document is enclosed herewith.

The publication date of document 4 (JP 03-123372) has been corrected. This document was listed with incorrect publication date in the IDS filed on October 17, 2003.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, please charge Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP


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Limited Recognition

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Enclosures: Limited Recognition
PTO/SB/08
3 Documents



Combined Form PTO/SB/08A&B

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT***(use as many sheets as necessary)**Complete if Known*

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|-------|---|----|---|------------------------|------------------------|
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Application Number | 10/686,633 |
| | | | | Confirmation Number | 8920 |
| | | | | Filing Date | October 17, 2003 |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | Tatsuji HIGUCHI et al. |
| | | | | Art Unit | 2622 |
| | | | | Examiner Name | VU, NGOC YEN T. |
| | | | | Attorney Docket Number | 981491A |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | | Number | Kind Code ² (if known) | | |
| | 1 | US 5,953,546 | | 09-14-1999 | Okada et al. |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Translation ⁶ |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| | | Country Code ³ | Number ⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | |
| | 2 | JP | 08-214200 | | 08-20-1996 | CANON INC. | Yes |
| | 3 | JP | 09-5866 | | 01-10-1997 | MINOLTA CO. LTD. | Yes |
| | 4 | JP | 03-123372 | | 05-27-1991 | CANON INC. | Abstract |
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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published. | Translation ⁶ |
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| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.



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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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Expires: July 7, 2007

Harry I. Moatz

Director of Enrollment and Discipline